

Message Text

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 INR-05 L-01 NSC-05

NSCE-00 EB-03 PRS-01 /039 W
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R 082310Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9870

S E C R E T WELLINGTON 1905

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAG : MARR, MPOL, NZ, SN

SUBJ: NEW ZEALAND MANAGEMENT OF SINGAPORE NAVAL FACILITIES

REF: STATE 158208

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH ACTING DCM JULY 8, DEPSECY FONAFFS NORRISH RAISED THIS SUBJECT, NOTING WASHINGTON HAD INDICATED ITS APPRECIATION FOR NZ'S EFFORT TO BE HELPFUL IN MEETING US NEEDS IN SINGAPORE BUT ITS INTENTION TO PURSUE ASSOCIATION WITH PROPOSED UK-SINGAPORE ARRANGEMENT. THUS, HE SAID, IT APPEARED NZ WAS "OFF THE HOOK" CONCERNING THIS MATTER, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING.

2. NORRISH WENT ON TO SAY IT WAS AGAINST BACKGROUND OF POSITIONS NZ IS TAKING REGARDING ISSUES SUCH AS SPNFZ AND NPW VISITS, WHICH CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR US, THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD SOUGHT TO TRY TO BE HELPFUL REGARDING SINGAPORE ARRANGEMENTS FOR USN.

3. COMMENT. IT SEEMS CLEAR FROM EARLIER REMARKS BY GENERAL WEBB TO AMBASSADOR AND COMMENT ABOVE BY NORRISH THAT THERE IS GROWING SENSITIVITY AND CONCERN AMONG SOME SENIOR GNZ CAREER OFFICIALS OVER POSSIBILITY THAT POSITIONS GNZ IS TAKING ON VARIOUS ISSUES OF
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IMPORTANCE TO US MAY BE THREATENING TRADITIONALLY

CLOSE US-NZ BILATERAL RELATIONS. EMBASSY DOES NOT,
HOWEVER, BELIEVE THAT SUCH CONCERNS WILL DISUADE
PRESENT GNZ LEADERSHIP FROM PURSUING FOREIGN POLICIES
WHICH IT FIGURES WILL ENHANCE PROSPECTS FOR ITS
REELECTION THIS COMING NOVEMBER. SELDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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